



MONTANA ARTS COUNCIL

AN AGENCY OF STATE GOVERNMENT

Strengthening the Creative Economy of Montana

**Montana Art Council
Percent-for-Art Program
Opens: April 15, 2015
Closes: June 3rd, 2015, 11:59 p.m. M.D.T**



Jim McDonald, A&E Architects, Architect | Photo credit: Czelsi Kozak

**Call for Art
University of Montana
Chemistry Building - Renovation of the Historic Building
Missoula, Montana**

The selection committee will purchase and permanently install any selected artwork.

Scope of the Project:

The University of Montana has made major renovations to a building that houses their Chemistry department, classrooms, labs, offices for faculty and staff, study lounges, and conference rooms. The addition is a near-seamless design interpretation of the existing historic building. This plan was under-taken once it was realized that the original architect designed it to be expanded from the beginning of their planning process. The

building was built in 1938 in a Renaissance Revival style, which complimented the overall plan for the campus. Additions to the rear of the building took place in 1950 and the 1980's. This 2002-2005 renovation, of added space and upgrades was authorized because of need to address energy conservation, health and safety problems throughout the building.

The Selection Committee wants to focus the Percent-for-Art project on (4) sites. They have decided that they will consider artworks appropriate for these spaces and their budget of \$20,000. They have identified (4) sites for flatwork and minimally-raised 3-D sculptural work [4" maximum]. Each of these sites has two walls. The committee hopes to see submissions for work by the same artist on the walls flanking the window and/or for the walls mirroring one another and flank the window wall. [See site interpretation images, photos and ideas for layout design at the links below]. There are (2) sites for 3-D sculptural works. A large site on the exterior of the building at the front façade of the new addition would be appropriate for a multitude of weather resistant materials. An interior showcase with glass front would be appropriate for all mediums including textiles and glass. There is specialized lighting in this case. The back of the case could be modified within the art budget depending on the type of artwork and desire of the artist and UM-Chemistry staff. All work will be permanently installed. It is the intention of the committee that these artworks will enhance the experience of the students, faculty, staff, alumni and the general public.

It is their wish that the work exemplify creative expression and excellence. The committee would like applicants to consider the themes of chemistry and the natural world, and of representing the ideas and passions of their students, faculty and alumni who have come from all corners of Montana and the nation to study and begin their careers in chemistry. They would like applicants to know that this is a historic building with good bone structure and a great many white painted walls that would benefit from artworks ranging from traditional to modern.

This project has a special feature. The interior wall sites on staircase landings, which are wide and have two staircases leading to each landing. A tall mullioned window graces the center of the space adding direct **north light** to the end walls and offering light to the walls flanking the window, which has a bit of a "back lit" quality. Because the height of the walls at these landing exceeds 10' and can easily be seen from the floors above, we have set the artwork on the window walls at "no work shall exceed 96."

The selection criteria will adhere to ADA [Americans with Disabilities Act] requirements about protruding objects, but is not limited to the following guidelines: exhibits can't be displayed below 27" or above 80" [see special consideration for this project] from the finished floor and must not protrude more than 4 inches from the wall, for the reason that they can be hazardous to a person with low vision, or who is blind. In this building, it isn't practical to install a barrier to accommodate deeper artworks that project from the walls or sit in the middle of the floor. Sculpture will be considered with consideration of public safety and protection of the artwork. All artwork will be hung or installed by the University Facilities department with possible assistance from the artist, possible

professional art installers, and will adhere to appropriate installation standards. As some of these walls are plaster over hollow brick, we will need to know the weight of the artwork from the artists who become FINALISTS. The Selection Committee, for reasons of a limited budget, will not consider artwork needing electrical wiring or plumbing or specialized lighting.

Multiple artworks, from the same artist, will be **strongly** considered. **Site A** on the second floor landing, consists of Wall 1 & 2 adjoining the window [3'6" long and up to 96"] and Wall 3 & 4 adjoining the stairs [6'11" long and up to 84"]. **Site B** on the third floor landing consists of wall 1 & 2 adjoining the window [3'6" long and up to 96"] and Wall 3 & 4 adjoining the stairs [6'11" long and up to 84"]. The staircase is the central staircase leading from both the front and rear entry. Each site has the same measurements. **Site C** is a showcase located in the first floor hallway and adjoins the Administrative office [46" deep x 76" length x 78" high]. **Site D** is an exterior site and sits between two main sidewalks bordering the building [45' x 48' usable space]. **See links below** to review: sizes, sites and layouts.

Works on paper or in textiles will need UV protective glass and all "flat" artwork will need framing at the time of installation. Exterior 3-D artwork will need a specialized pad, footings and reinforced rebar. Interior 3-D may need protective considerations related to lighting, dust, maintenance. They may need a hanging or other display devices. All of these issues can be addressed in the Description field for each media image upload. Artists should also consider that the artist and the committee will determine the costs for these items, shipping, insurance, installation labor and supplies and for signage at the time an offer is made to the artist. Costs of the artwork and the installation expenses will all come out of the \$20,000 dollar allowable budget. **We'll settle all of the requirements at the time of the FINALISTS's contract.**

NOTE: Insurance is required for artwork once it is under contract and during shipping. Signature and inspection should be required for acceptance of the artwork at the destination.

NOTE: The Selection Committee may choose the work of one or more artists, for one or more sites and reserves the right to decline any or all submissions.

The selection committee and the Montana Arts Council encourages creativity and innovation, but the work should be conceptually accessible to the students, faculty, staff and visitors of the building. The committee seeks artworks of any medium/material and is open to a variety of styles from traditional to experimental. Up to \$20,000 will be made available for purchase of the artwork, appropriate glass and framing, pedestals and concrete pads, the artwork's installation and signage. Quality artistry, manufacture and installation standards must be met and during the proposal stage, an engineering report may be required to assure the public safety and longevity of the artwork. A warranty of one year will be required in the artist's contract. Once the Selection Committee has made its list of finalists, the slate and artist applications will be forwarded to the full board of the Montana Arts Council for approval. The artist(s) will

maintain the copyright to the artwork but there will be restrictions about the use of reproductions and other images of the artwork. A copy of our artist's contract can be forwarded upon request.

NOTE: Please see:

- [Photo Gallery for photo images of UM-Chemistry building](#)
- [Identified art sites and sizes](#)
- [Artwork layout ideas](#)

NOTE:

- <https://mt.slideroom.com> for the **Applicant Portal**
- <http://slideroomreview.besnappy.com/faq> for **Online Help Desk**
- <http://www.slideroom.com/support.html> for **Individual Support for Applicants, Administrators and Reviewers**

NOTE: Application forms and process for UM-Law, UM-Chemistry and two other upcoming projects will be identical. Artists may “copy and paste” forms and re-use images they’ve put into their Slideroom media library. This will allow artists to more easily apply to any, or all, of the projects using the same artwork or by using other artwork if they wish. MAC will facilitate any difficulties with selection committees selecting the same artwork. See MAC’s FAQ section to learn more.